

REMARKS

The indication that Claims 20, 21, 28, 31, 33 and 34 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, is acknowledged. By the foregoing amendments, Claims 20 and 21 have been rewritten in independent form including the limitations of Claim 18, with Claims 18 and 19 being canceled, dependent Claims 21-32 have been amended to depend from Claim 21 and new dependent Claim 35 has been presented. Therefore, in light of the indicated allowance of the objected to claims, Claims 20-35 should now be in condition for allowance.

As to the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a), such rejections are considered moot in light of the amendment to the claims. Accordingly, issuance of an action of a favorable nature is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

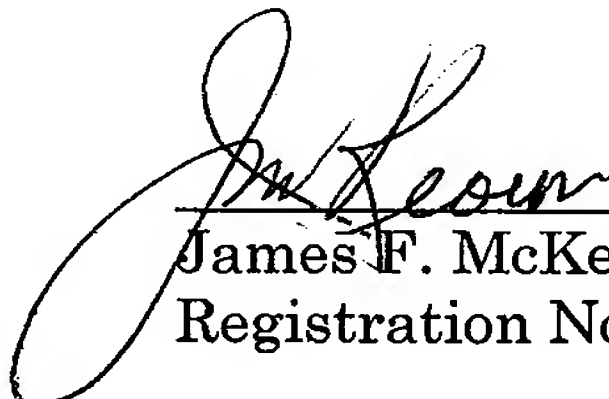
If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and

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please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit
Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #095309.57214US).

Respectfully submitted,

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